(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has recently struck a major off-shore oil field near the Bassein gasfield off Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to integrate a number of recent small discoveries with the existing major facilities to make them commercially viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has recently found oil and gas leads in B-22 structure located about 15 kilometers west of Bassein field in Mumbai offshore.

(c) Exploration is a continuous process and the leads thus obtained from various discoveries are pursued to consolidate and integrate them with existing assets and produce hydrocarbons in a commercially viable manner.

Mixing of Naphtha with Petrol

†4738. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1319 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 2003 and state :

(a) whether there is a ban on the mixing of Naphtha with Petrol in many places in other countries; and

(b) if so, the basis on which permission for mixing has been given by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Government is not aware of any ban on the mixing of Naphtha with Petrol in other countries.

(b) No permission has been given by Government for mixing of Naphtha with petrol.

Supply of Gas by British Petroleum

4739. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR : Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British Petroleum has offered supply of gas to India at affordable prices of $ 3.00 per mmbtu for power plants;

(b) if so, whether the British Petroleum will be sourcing its supplies from Iran; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi